15-Point Programme on Minorities Welfare

1381. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister expressed deep dissatisfaction over the poor implementation of the 15-Point Programme for minorities welfare in various States;

(b) whether it is also fact that the State Governments though they have accepted the Central Government's guidelines for implementation of the programme, have not effectively implemented; and

(c) what steps the Central Government propose to take to re-vitalise the implementation of the said programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) The Prime Minister in his message to the Conference of State Ministers for Minorities Welfare held on 19th July, 1987 observed that the implementation of the Programme has not been satisfactory so far and that awareness at the State, District and Block levels is very low. Further, even where State Governments have accepted the Central guidelines, the Govt. of India are not kept fully informed as to the effectiveness of the measures taken.

(c) Implementation of 15-Point Programme by all agencies of Govt. is reviewed every quarter and deficiencies if any, are taken up with the concerned State Govt. or agency for taking remedial action. The monitoring is being further strengthened.

Rethinking on gas-based fertilizer plants

1382. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any rethinking on the setting up of four gas-based fertiliser plants instead of six units along HBJ; and

(b) what will be the total quantity of fertilizer production from these units and whether same will be sufficient for the local consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The estimated production of Urea from the six gas-based plants when commissioned along the HBJ pipeline will be approximately 44.00 lakh tonnes per annum. The demand varies with climatic conditions. If there is any demand in excess of production, after these plants have been commissioned the same will be met through imports.

Steel Policy

1383. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating a new policy for steel in view of the Steel prices being the highest in India in comparison with other countries of the World; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Efforts are continuously made to reduce the cost of production of steel by higher capacity utilisation, improved productivity, reduced energy consumption and better efficiency through improved work practices.